WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub
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1. A storage device for maintaining information when power is OFF and being capable of executing a test process based on test signals, comprising:

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a test terminal inputting the test signals;

an instruction part sending a read out instruction for instructing a memory storing secret data to read out data;

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a decoding part decoding whether or not the data read out by the memory in response to the data reading instruction is the secret data stored in the memory;

a maintaining part maintaining information

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in a volatile state resulting from the decoding part; and

a cutting-off part cutting off the test signals input from the test terminal when the maintaining part maintains information indicating

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that the secret data is stored.

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2. The storage device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said read out instruction sent by said instruction part is a secret data read out instruction for instructing the memory storing secret data to read out the secret data.

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3.   The storage device as claimed in claim
1, wherein said read out instruction sent by said
instruction part is a data read out instruction for
5   instructing the memory storing secret data to read
out all data stored in the memory other than working
data.

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4.   The storage device as claimed in claim
1, wherein said read out instruction sent by said
instruction part is a data read out instruction for
15   instructing the memory storing secret data to read
out data indicating a presence of the secret data
stored in an area that is not for the secret data.

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5.   The storage device as claimed in claim
1, wherein said instruction part sends the read out
instruction when the power is ON.
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6.   The storage device as claimed in claim
30   1, wherein said instruction part sends the read out
instruction when the memory is reset.

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7.   The storage device as claimed in claim
1, wherein said instruction part sends the read out

instruction when a command for operating secret data
is made.

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          8. A storage device for maintaining
information when power is OFF and being capable of
executing a test process based on test signals,
10 comprising:
          a decoding part gathering a set of data
read out by a memory storing secret data in response
to an access request and decoding based on the set of
data whether or not the secret data is stored.
15   a maintaining part maintaining information
in a volatile state resulting from the decoding part;
and
          a cutting-off part cutting off the test
signals input from a test terminal when the
20 maintaining part maintains information indicating
that the secret data is stored.

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          9. A storage device for maintaining
information when power is OFF and being capable of
executing a test process based on test signals,
comprising:
30   a maintaining part maintaining, in a
volatile state, information indicating that an access
request is conducted to a memory storing secret data;
and
          a cutting-off part cutting off the test
35 signals input from a test terminal when the
maintaining part maintains the information indicating
that the access request is conducted to the memory

storing secret data.